Programme (NHDP) in Bihar on National Highways Nos. 4, 11A, 16, 54A, 33, 34, 32, 175, 47, 10A and 47;

(b) if so, the reasons for not starting construction of these ROBs and the action his Ministry has taken/propose to take to start construction of these eleven ROBs;

(c) whether NHAI is required to sign MoUs with the State Government of Bihar regarding construction of nine ROBs at NH Nos. 31, 30, 67A, 47/48, 48A, 59, 53, 69 and 102; and

(d) if so, the action taken to sign MoUs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) The National Highways Nos. 4, 11A, 16, 54A, 33, 34, 32, 175, 47, 10A and 47 do not fall in the State of Bihar.

(c) and (d) No MOU is required to be signed by NHAI with Bihar Government for ROBs on National Highways mandated to NHAI.

Development of NHs

1145. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been developing National Highways on priority basis;

(b) if so, the amount allocated for Central Road Fund (CRF); and

(c) the amount sanctioned and released for National Highways in Himachal Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIAPPA): (a) The development of National Highways is a continuous process and the same is being carried out in phased manner on the basis of traffic intensity, *inter-se* priority and availability of funds. Nevertheless, the Government has taken up Specific Projects for development of National Highways with target date of completion, which, includes various phases of National Highways Development Project (NHDP) and the Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for North-Eastern Region (SARDP-NE).

(b) The amount allocated from Central Road Fund for development of National Highways during the current financial year 2006-2007, is Rs. 6407.45 crore.

(c) The total amount allocated during the year 2006-2007 for development of National Highways in the State of Himachal Pradesh and the expenditure incurred thereon upto 28.02.2007 are Rs. 45.00 crore and Rs. 25.27 crore respectively. In addition to this Border Roads Organization (BRO) is developing and maintaining National Highway-22 (Wangtu-Pooh) under General Staff funds. The sanctioned scope on this Highway is Rs. 40.00 crore and the amount released during Financial Year 2006-2007 is Rs. 25.00 crore.

Widening and maintenance of NHs in H.P.

1146. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of National Highways in Himachal Pradesh on which work of widening, extension and maintenance has been started from the year 2006 till date alongwith the time by when similar work on other National Highways passing through Himachal Pradesh is likely to be started; and

(b) the estimated expenditure to be incurred and the amount actually spent thereon as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Works of widening, extension and maintenance have been started on National Highway Nos. 20, 21, 21A, 22, 70, 72 and 88 with effect from January, 2006. All the National Highways have been covered except NH-73A. The work of similar nature of this National Highway is likely to be taken up in subsequent annual plan.

(b) From January 2006, so far 25 works of widening, extension and maintenance have been started or sanctioned on National Highways in Himachal Pradesh with estimated cost of Rs. 57.81 crore against which the expenditure by State Government up to 31.1.2007 is Rs. 13.19 crore.